Negro Leaders Hail Decision to Establish Center for All Races

The plan of the District Recreation Board to establish a city-wide interracial center at the old Central High School drew applause yesterday from 11 leaders of the Negro community here.

In a letter addressed to the Recreation Board, the group hailed the action as the "beginning of an official policy much in keeping with the democratic principles introduced by the Constitution of the United States." The move was described as a "highly commendable step forward," the letter added:

"We hope that you will find it feasible to adopt and continue such a policy with respect to all recreational areas and facilities at the earliest possible moment."

Project Voted Thursday.

The Recreation Board voted the project at a special meeting held Thursday. The program will open there this September when the school reopens as a high school for Negroes. The school will be known as Cardozo High School and the center as Cardozo Center.

Those signing the letter were:

The Rev. Stephen G. Spottswood, president of the District Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; the Rev. J. F. Whitfield, president of the Interdenominational Ministers Alliance of Washington and Vicinity; Mrs. Ailene B. Ewell, president of the Washington Metropolitan Council of the National Council of Negro Women.

Gardner L. Bishop, president of the Consolidated Parent Group; George E. C. Hayes, attorney and former member of the Board of Education; Woolsey W. Hall, president of the Federation of Civic Associations; Charles C. Beckett, executive secretary of the Washington Urban League; Mrs. Marion B. Scott, president of the Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations; James A. Cobb, retired Municipal Court judge; Ellis O. Knox, education professor at Howard University and chairman of the civic federation's education committee, and John B. Duncan,

class. He entered politics in 1934 as a candidate for State's Attorney

No Major Incident Mars Opening Day

City Given Verbal 'Spanking' By Judge

Efforts of City officials to save jim crow in outdoor swimming pools ran out of legal gas Tuesday when City lawyers took a legal spanking from U. S. Judge Rubey H. Hulen and also drew a blank out of Assistant City Counselor John P. McCammons's flight to Omaha. (Nebr.).

Judge Hulen's decision handed down Monday found that two Negroes who brought suit against the City charging they were denied admission to Fairground pool were deprived **". . . of their right to equal protection under the laws under the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States . . ."** He ordered City officials to "cease and desist" barring Negroes from [illegible] outdoor pools solely because of color, as of Wednesday.

The City immediately announced its intention to appeal and asked Judge Hulen to delay the effective date of his decree. Ruling orally on the City's request Tuesday, Judge Hulen lectured City Counselor James E. Crowe: "You overlook the fact that I am under oath to support and defend the Constitution . . . you are arguing that I should disregard my oath because of some custom that prevails here . . . and if I may make the observation, I think the same duty rests upon all of you to determine what the law is and follow it."

Assistant City Counselor John P. McCammon then took an airplane to Omaha (Nebr.) to appeal to the U. S. Court of Appeals, 8th District, to present the City's plea for more time to comply with Judge Hulen's order. The City contended that opening all pools to Negroes might make it impossible to restore the "status quo" in the future among other considerations. Appellate Judges J. Woodrough and Harvey Johnson sustained Judge Hulen by refusing a stay of execution.

At the end of its legal rope, the City moved to comply with Judge Hulen's order, stationing 175 policemen at Fairground pool on Wednesday to preserve order.

Mayor Darst, upon learning of the Court's decision, said: **"I don't anticipate any trouble. I think a decision of the court was necessary in the interest of human relations. Naturally, we will abide by the decision and hope all citizens also."**

Presumably backed by the Human Relations Council, the Mayor nevertheless pushed an appeal in an effort to set aside Judge Hulen's ruling. Harry Simmons, chairman of the Council, in a statement to the ARGUS said, **"We have no alternative except to go along with the City in this matter. Of course, I believe the courts must be obeyed, but I support the appeal."** When asked whether the Council planned a special session in view of the court's decision overruling the Council's stand for segregation, Simmons said. "I see no need for a special meeting."

Judge Hulen's Decision

In his ruling Judge Hulen said the issue was: "Can the City of St. Louis refuse use of open-air swimming pools, built and maintained by public funds, to its Negro citizens, solely because of their color or race . .."

Upon examining the City's claim challenging Federal jurisdiction in the suit brought by Miss Rose Taylor and George Draper II, Judge Hulen held, "We find no case forbidding an aggrieved party access to a Federal tribunal under circumstances where custom is relied on as a defense to segregation resulting in denial of equal rights."

In its defense, the City admitted it had no authority in state or federal statute to bar Negroes but pleaded, "that the custom and usage whereby members of the Negro race and the members of the white race are not permitted to use the same swimming pools is a custom and usage of long seanding in the City of St. Louis."

Judge Hulen termed this defense, "As a proposition of law defendants present a new and novel theory. While it may comport with defendants' extrajudical ideas of the proper and most expeditious manner of handling the problem which has presented itself, if finds no support in law."

In directing the City to end segregation in its outdoor pools, Judge Hulen ordered that Negroes must be admitted, **". . . on a basis of racial equality, in that no rule or regulation shall be made applicable to members of the Negro race that is not equally applicable to members of all other races using the open-air pools."**

Holding that Draper and Miss Taylor who had asked a total of $70,000 in damages had shown no monetary loss, Judge Hulen denied this item of their petition.

Teachers Presented Title to N.C. Beach, Park Land

RALEIGH, N.C.—The deed to a 4,000-acre property to be developed by colored teachers as a beach and recreation center was presented here last Friday to directors of Hammocks Beach Corporation by Dr. William Sharpe, noted New York brain specialist.

Following the presentation in the State Education Building the directors of the corporation began immediate plans for preparing the area for use.

Teachers Raise $90,000

Dr. H. L. Trigg, president of St. Augustine's College here and only colored member of the State Board of Education said the 7,900 colored teachers in the State raised $90,000 to match $100,000 Dr. Sharp invested in the property.

The project was inspired, the brain specialist said, by Mrs. Gertrude Hurst, a former rural teacher, who, with her husband, served Dr. Sharpe when he came to the area for rest.

When he offered the land to the Hursts, Mrs. Hurst suggested that he make possible an assembly and recreation area for colored classroom teachers.

Interracial Effort

Dr. Sharpe met with 25 or more leaders of both races here Aug. 21, 1945, and outlined the purposes and conditions of his gift. One condition was that the teachers raise a reasonable sum for necessary buildings.

Directors of the project are: Dr. Sharpe and his wife, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the director, State Division of Negro Education, the presidents of the State's senior colored colleges the State supervisor of colored elementary schools, eight representatives of the Teachers Association and two citizens who are not teachers.

Joy for Kiddies—One of the fine things done by the National Achievement Clubs, Inc., is the furnishing of recreation for youngsters everywhere the group has chapters. This is a typical scene at a swimming pool at Camp Achievement near Pittsburgh, Pa. Much joy and fun are had by the kiddies in this and kindred recreational facilities made possible by the groups.

National Group Helps Kiddies

'Camp Achievement' Is Tribute to Women

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—"Camp Achievement"—That name itself is eloquently symbolic of an achievement which has grown from a tiny cell to something of national scope which is bringing joy into the lives of hundreds of children scattered all across the Eastern part of the U. S.—the National Achievement Clubs.

Near the little town of Connellsville, Pa.—famous for its footballer Johnny Lujack—this camp, supported by the National Achievement Club and its 8,000 women and girl members, is a source of real joy and a true deterrent to juvenile delinquency. It is equipped to provide a diversity of recreation for the small fry.

SMALL BEGINNING

Fifteen years ago—Jan. 7, 1935, to be exact—Mrs. Alma Illery of Pittsburgh, by way of Timmonsville, S. C., took a group of five other women and began a small project which was to aid the social service department of Pittsburgh's Passavant Hospital. Almost one-third of that hospital's patients were Negroes. That group was the beginning of the National Achievement Club.

Developing through small projects the finance necessary to carry out its program, the group decided to branch out and include other towns. Mrs. Illery, now holder of an honorary doctorate degree, was a tireless, driving sparkplug, and the organization grew and grew.

8,000 MEMBERS

Today the National Achievement Club has fifty chapters with 8,000 members. There are chapters in Tuskegee Institute, Oklahoma City Okla., St. Louis, New York City, Detroit, Philadelphia, Rankin, Pa., and many other places. Dr. Illery is still the guiding spirit of the movement.

Camp Achievement represents the group's most outstanding achievement. It is strictly interracial, shared by white and Negro children alike. Miss Catherine Austin is director of the camp. With her is Miss Osceola Menney, recent University of Pittsburgh graduate, who specialized in sociology and child psychology. She is the latest staff addition.

The camp, which attracts hundreds of underprivileged children, has modern facilities.

THOSE GENEROUS ONES

Mrs. R. L. Vann, publisher of The Courier; Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Jackson, Stanley Williams, Pittsburgh businessman; the Pitts-Pittsburgh Dapper Dan Club, the Ladies Auxiliary of St. Vincent's College, the United Steelworkers, CIO; the First Presbyterian Church of Connellsville and Dr. and Mrs. G. J. Slosser are among the many who have helped equip it through their generosity.

They gave the camp its own generator electric refrigeration, movie projector, camperships for the many children unable to afford them, and many other items.

Members of Achievement Club chapters around the nation have also sent in money to help keep the project modern and up to date. Radio Commentator Mary Dee of Station WHOD, Homestead, Pa., keeps the camp in the public eye.

JOY FOR KIDDIES

As for the kiddies, they all eagerly look forward to coming to Camp Achievement year after year until they become adults. They then join the ranks of those who help keep the camp going. It is truly an achievement which is like its name, and it is there because a small group of earnest and sincere women decided to do something for those who were less fortunate than they. It is a tribute to them. It is one of their accomplishments.

Spartan Negro Pool Is Begun

Columbia S.C.
Sept. 1950
Pg. 3

Spartanburg, May 24—(AP)—Construction was started here today on a municipal swimming pool for Negroes. The pool will be located in Fairforest park, given to the city last year by the Spartanburg county foundation for use as a recreation area for Negroes.

Being constructed at a cost of $51,742, the pool is scheduled to be completed by the middle of July.

NEW SWIMMING POOL OPENING FRIDAY NIGHT

Lighthouse and Informer
Aug. 5-20-50

The stage was all set for a big and splendid opening of the new $200,000 municipal swimming pool in Seegars Park on Friday night at press time Wednesday.

Events scheduled bid to make the occasion one of pomp never before witnessed with pretty lasses and accomplished swimmers teaming up for a night to be remembered.

Columbia, S.C.

A bevy of Columbia's lasses is to parade and bid for the bulging eyes of judges, each with attendants, and wearing the favors of a score or more of sponsors.

Festivities get underway at about seven o'clock but the big water carnival and events start at eight. Indications are that it will be sensible to get there early if a good vantage spot is desired.

Costing some $200,000 the pool is the latest addition to the city's recreational facilities. Workmen were busy putting on finishing touches at mid-week and the committee on program said it had spared nothing in giving the long-sought facility a proper and fitting send-off.

41 1950

Tennessee

RECREATION SUPERVISOR

OMAR ROBINSON, Jr.

For the first time in the history of the Memphis Recreation Department a Negro Supervisor has been named to coordinate activities of the several playgrounds for Colored children. Announcement of the appointment was made this week by Superintendent Marion Hale, who selected Omar Robinson, Jr of 3134 Chelsea, for the newly created position.

"Interest in playground activities has increased appreciably since Robinson has been on, "Mr. Hale told the Memphis World. "I believe his work of giving guidance and help otherwise to the playgrounds will mean large attendance on part of the young people," Mr. Hale added.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Omar Robinson, Sr., Mr. Robinson entered his new position with considerable experience as a playground director. He had served previously as a director over a five-year period.

His selection as supervisor came just a few days following graduation from A. and I State College with a Degree in Music. He is a talented musician and only Sunday night of this week. Mr. Robinson was presented in a recital at the new Metropolitan Baptist church by members of his fraternity, Sigma Pi Phi.

There are eight playgrounds under Robinson's supervision. They are Booth Dixie Homes LeMoyne, Lincoln, Orange Mound, Douglas, Washington and Foote Homes.

Three Rs, Did You Say? Yessir, They're Reelin' And Ridin' And Rovin'!

More Than 45,000 Birmingham Kids To Pick Up Their Reports And Waltz Tomorrow; Word Of Caution Sounded

BY CLARENCE DAIGLE
News Staff Writer

Schools out! Lessons are over!

Tomorrow the kids—more than 45,000 of them—will pick up their report cards.

And then they will be ready for Summer vacations.

* * *

THE NEIGHBORHOOD will take on a new look with brown bodies glistening in the sun, and baseballs flying through the air.

Mama will throw up her hands and wonder how she is going to stand it. It was bad enough having them a few hours in the afternoon, roping their steers in the living room and cutting out their paper dolls on the kitchen table.

In the evenings daddy will find there are walks to the park he must take. Or Mary wants to see that show at the neighborhood theater.

* * *

IT WON'T BE necessary for the children to stay around the house all day, however.

All five swimming pools in the Birmingham area will open Friday, Felix Swaim, secretary of the Park and Recreation Board, announced.

There are four swimming pools for white children and one for Negro children.

Plans are being made for interesting programs at the 33 Birmingham playgrounds. The playgrounds will open June 5. There are 24 playgrounds available to white children and nine for Negro children.

* * *

BUT WITH SUMMER comes danger.

Health officials advise parents not to get panic stricken, but a few necessary precautions to keep their children in good health should be taken.

Three fundamental rules for keeping both children and adults healthy were outlined.

They are:

1. Avoid exhaustion and fatigue.
2. Avoid overheating.
3. Do not allow the body to be chilled. This especially holds true after violent exercise when the body is overheated. Do not take a cold shower after hard exercise.

IT MIGHT BE WISE, officials said, to postpone any throat or nose operation during the polio season. Such surgery opens a new lane of infection.

There is also the danger that some child will be missing from his desk at the next school term, because he failed to follow a few safety rules.

Here is a message from Capt. H. V. Early, of Birmingham's Traffic Department:

"Be careful, children. Don't play in the streets. Don't show off by riding on handle bars of your bike. Don't speed with your motorbike, and if it is designed for one person, let only one person ride on it at a time.

"Remember these safety rule and all of the others you have learned in school.

* * *

WHEN JOHNNY comes home tomorrow, mama, no doubt a little anxious, will be waiting for him.

If his eyes are sparkling and he shouts to her a few feet from the door, she will know that he has passed. But if his eyes are sad, and he hanks his head a little shamefacedly, she'll know that he hasn't done so well.

But don't worry, parents. There are Summer schools where your son or daughter can make up work. The schools are for only a few hours each day, and the children still will have plenty of time to enjoy their vacation.

* * *

BUT ALL IN ALL, it is expected to be a wonderful vacation.

There will be more laughter, singing and love in the homes for more hours.

What could be better than that!

Park Slated For Negroes In Montgomery, Ala.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. —(SNS)— A ten acre lot formerly used as a "Pesthouse" for isolation of smallpox and yellow fever cases has been converted into a park for 45,000 Negro citizens here.

This once "pest belt" will be known as the King's Hill Park T. A. Belser, recreational supervisor, claims it will be the most attractive and badly needed addition to the city's recreational program.

Civic leaders here have sent in repeated protests and demands for recreational opportunities but they apparently went unheeded until after the U. S. Supreme Court ruling in the Miami golf links case in which public golf courses were opened up to Negroes.

Police To Enforce Jim Crow Ban At D. C. Pools

WASHINGTON—Interior Secretary Oscar Chapman has announced that six District swimming pools controlled by the Interior Department will be operated on a racially non-segregated basis when they are reopened this spring.

Mr. Chapman said he "hopes and believes" there will be no racial disorder at any of the pools. But he said the Department would be ready to enforce swimming pool regulations by police action and protection if necessary.

In two other moves, the District Board of Education turned over a white high school for the use of Negro pupils, after the proposal had been bitterly resisted by various citizens association groups.

Negro theatre-lovers were admitted without segregation to the newly converted Gayety Theater, where the live theater has returned to Washington, after two years under an Actors' Equity policy which refuses to permit its members to play before audiences from which Negroes are barred.

Nonsegregated Pools Open; All Orderly

Three Interior Department swimming pools opened quietly yesterday on a nonsegregated basis with no incidents reported.

The pools, opened to the public on the daily 3 p. m. to 6 p. m. schedule, were East Potomac, Banneker and McKinley. When schools close the pools will open at 1 p. m. weekdays and 10 a. m. weekends.

Guards reported opening day's attendance considerably below last year's opener, but explained the 1949 season began on a Saturday which always draws more children and Government workers.

Checks at the pools yesterday showed about 100 white children and 2 or 3 Negroes used East Potomac; about 200 Negroes and 12 white children were at McKinley and slightly more than 1000 swam at Banneker, all of whom were Negroes.

D. C. Swimming Pools To Operate Non-Jim Crow Basis

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (NNPA) —The six local swimming pools, operated by the Interior Department, will operate on a non-segregated basis this summer, Interior Secretary Oscar Chapman announced last Friday.

It was earlier announced that the Anacostia pool, closed last summer after racial disturbances there would reopen for non-segregated use.

Until last year the six pools were run on a segregated basis, with Banneker and Frances pools used by colored persons and Anacostia, McKinley, Takoma and East Potomac pols restricted to whites. The Interior Department began enforcing its non-segregation policy last summer.

Mr Chapman said National Capital Parks has been working all winter on plans to enforce the non segregation policy without disorder. He said the department does not expect trouble this summer.

The decision of the Interior Department, Mr. Chapman said, does not rule out the possibility of reaching an agreement with the District of Columbia Recreation Department for operation of the pools. But he said the Interior Department has no intention of abandoning its long-standing policy of non-segregation.

The Recreation Department last year offered to take over all six pools and operate two of them, McKinley and Banneker, on a non-segregated basis, but Interior refused.

$400,000 Atlanta Pool Set to Open

ATLANTA — George Simons, City Parks manager, believes the city's new $400,000 Pittman Park will be opened in time for the next swimming season. The new park is located on a fifty-acre tract near Carrman School in Atlanta's Pittsburgh area.

ANDERSON PARK OPENS

Fulton County Dedicates Playground For Negroes

Negroes today have a new 80-acre Fulton County park, a Summer playground complete with a gymnasium-type recreation hall, ball park. Scout campground and picnic areas.

Anderson Park was officially dedicated for use yesterday, but the area has many improvements yet to come. A new swimming pool will be built, probably this Summer, County Commissioner R. L. Doyal said last night, and the County hopes to start work on a nine-hole golf course there next year. The new park is located on Anderson Road, just outside the Atlanta city limits.

An appreciative crowd, estimated at 2,500, flooded the new park grounds as John Wesley Dobbs gave the dedicatory address that opened the new facility. Charles Newman, Chairman of the Anderson Park Recreation Committee, was in charge of the program, and the Rev. R. D. Sutton gave the invocation.

Graham Jackson and the Washington High School Band provided music, and an unusual turn of events found a nephew of the late President Roosevelt among the guests. He was Daniel Webster Delano, Jr.

After the dedication program, guests toured the park. High point of interest was the $50,000 recreation building which can be used for sports, dances or community meetings.

The completed ball field will be lighted soon for night baseball, according to county officials.

Opportunities such as this park offers will give our people a chance to use their energy in the right way, Dobbs said in dedication, and will help them become better citizens.

The New Anderson Park

Fulton County officials have taken a step in the right direction in which the opening of the new Anderson Park, dedicated here last Sunday afternoon. The park, an 80-acre development, complete with a recreation hall, baseball diamonds, picnic areas and a camp ground for Boy Scouts.

Commissioner R. L. Doyal, said at the dedication that although the park is opened now, there are many additional touches which will have to be made on the grounds, including a swimming pool, to be completed possibly sometime this summer.

Leaders Hail New Anderson Park Dedicated Here Sunday

$50,000 Recreation Hall To Serve Many Purposes, Groups

In a ringing dedicatory address at the opening of Fulton county's Anderson park, John Wesley Dobbs, civic and political leader, Sunday said that more recreational outlets will help Negroes to become better citizens by diverting their energy into constructive channels.

Dobbs spoke to more than 2,500 people who spilled over the grounds of Anderson park, an 80-acre development, complete with a recreational hall, baseball diamonds, picnic areas and a camp ground for Boy Scouts.

Although the park was opened for use Sunday, County Commissioner R. L. Doyal said that many improvements will be made on the grounds. He said that a swimming pool would probably be built this summer, and a golf course will be constructed next year.

The new park is located on Anderson Road, just outside the city limits.

Graham Jackson and the Washington High School band provided music for the occasion. Charles Newman, chairman of the Anderson Park Recreation committee, directed the program and the Rev. R. D. Sutton gave the invocation.

After the program, the large crowd toured the park. The $50,000 gymnasium recreation hall was warmly praised by the guests. The hall will be used for sports, dances, and community meetings.

County officials also said that lights will be put up soon at the ball field for night baseball.

Howard Long, 1947 graduate of Clark College and a student at the Atlanta University School of Social Work has already been appointed athletic director and Miss Louise Beckum will serve as recreational leader.

The $50,000 gymnasium will answer the needs of many groups who will make use of it. In all, the park is a credit to the wisdom and foresight of the Fulton County government.

Its no secret now that crime and juvenile delinquency are highest among cities and groups that have the least opportunities for play and recreation. Fulton county officials, therefore, are to be congratulated upon this step and may be assured that it will pay off in dollars and cents saved the taxpayers by a decrease in the crime rate among those for whom the park is intended.

Mayor's Order Opens Elliott Square As Playground for Negroes Too

Park Department Ends Supervision

Elliott Park, which has been a playground for white children, yesterday became Elliott Square, open to Negroes as well.

Mayor Charles Farnsley yesterday removed the area, bounded by 28th, 29th, Elliott, and Magazine Streets, from the jurisdiction of the Park Department, except for maintenance of physical facilities.

Population Shift Described

T. Byrne Morgan, superintendent of parks, said this would mean the transfer of four play supervisors stationd at Elliott. The Mayor's order is effective at once.

Farnsley acted yesterday after conferring with a delegation headed by Frank L. Stanley, publisher of The Louisville Defender. Its members maintained that the area within a half-mile radius of the park is now 65 per cent Negro, owing to population shifts within decade.

The park was deeded to the City in 1868 by Theodore D. Elliott and his wife.

Stanley said after the meeting the area served by the playground was "one of the best integrated in the city, where white and Negro children have been playing together in streets and back yards."

Park Department regulations prohibit mingling races on its playgrounds, so the department cannot continue to supervise play at Elliott.

The playground has a wading pool, softball diamond, swings, slides, and facilities for outdoor basketball practice.

Yesterday's conference was held behind closed doors with Roy Owsley, City consultant, present. Besides Stanley, members of the delegation were Alfred Carroll, attorney; J. E. Smith, insurance man; Mark Anthony, deputy in the County tax commissioner's office; J. Everett Ray, attorney; the Rev. D. B. King; Lyman T. Johnson, president of Louisville Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Charles T. Steele, secretary of the Urban League.

Police Keep Order As New Interracial Policy Begins By Court Ruling

ST. LOUIS. — (ANP) — Immediate and alert action by policemen here last week averted the outbreak of violence at Fairground Park as St. Louis opened its city swimming pools to Negroes. There was no violence at Marquette pool, the other swimming spot.

Swimming facilities were opened to Negroes Wednesday and Thursday in compliance with a court order by U. S. District Judge Rubey M. Hulen and confirmation of his order by two U. S. Court of Appeals judges

Eight white men and boys were arrested at Fairgrounds Park by Penrose street police as they were apparently leading a group of about 25 to 30 hoodlums into the pool to attack two Negro men who had gone swimming.

Parents were on the side of segregation, and the children on the side of democracy in the opening day demonstrations. Nobody was hurt or attacked, as a detail of 100 officers patrolled the park to enforce the federal ruling.

It all started after police escorted the two Negro swimmers to the bath house and they started swimming. About 200 persons jeered as they entered. About this time, four of the arrested persons took their hoods into the park to "go swimming."

The other four were arrested when they tried to intimidate the colored swimmers in the pool.

Outside, crowds of angry whites chased a Negro woman and a boy walking down the street but Joseph Casey, assistant chief of police, and Cpl. John Doherty broke up the crowd.

Another group threatened two colored men in an automobile after they had stopped for a traffic light. Two motorcycle policemen led them to safety.

Originally 70 officers were assigned by Chief of Police Jeremiah O'Connell to the pool, but later he called for the additional 100. The children cheered the arrival of the new officers, but the adults hooted their presence

Men swam at the Fairgrounds Park pool, and women swam at Marquette. Three Negro girls swam at the latter spot, but suffered no violence.

Police Action In Contrast

Action taken by police last week was quite a contrast to that of last year when white mob violence led the mayor to rescind a one-day order opening the Fairgrounds Park pool to all races.

Since that incident last summer the city of St. Louis had resisted all pressures to reopen the pools to Negroes. The ban was broken, probably for good, last week when Judge Hulen ruled in favor of two Negroes, George W. Draper and Miss Rose Taylor, filed suit against the city.

They charged that the city's action barring Negroes from recreational facilities supported by public funds was a violation of the 14th amendment of the Federal Constitution. They sought $35,000 damages.

Judge Hulen ordered the pools opened to Negroes declaring: "No rule or regulation shall be made applicable to members of the Negro race that is not equally applicable to members of all other races using the open-air pools."

His decision answered the following question posed by the plaintiffs:

"Can the city of St. Louis refuse use of open-air swimming pools, built, maintained and operated by public funds, to its Negro citizens solely because of their color or race?"

In answering this question the judge said in part:

"The city's contention that its segregation policy was directed by local custom is "a new and novel theory as a proposition of law. The defendants would delay the granting of equal rights to plaintiffs, as guaranteed by the Constitution, to some unannounced date.

"The law permits of no such delay in the protection of the plaintiffs' constitutional rights. The decisive question is not what kind of open-air swimming pools will be provided plaintiffs and members of the race to which plaintiffs belong, in the future, but what now provided by public funds for members of the white race and denied to members of the plaintiffs' race solely because of the color.

"It is the city's duty to provide the plaintiffs or the members of any race on the basis of racial equality. . .".

Officers To Preserve Order

The judge also pointed out that during the trial "the chief of police of St. Louis testified that if the outdoor swimming pools were open to all citizens regardless of race the officers under his direction could preserve order."

Although the city decided to appeal the case it lost in the U. S. Court of Appeals when Judges J. W. Woodrough and Harvey Johnson of the Eighth Judicial district refused to take any action on Judge Hulen's ruling.

Judge Hulen refused to allow the claims for damages.

After the judge's decision Mayor Joseph M. Darst commented: "The pools will remain open. We are governmental people and naturally have to obey the decrees of the court. . .I don't anticipate any trouble. I think a decision of the court was necessary in the interest of human relations. Naturally, we will abide by the decision and hope all citizens will also.

"These are times when the laws of the country should be observed by all people. I urge all civic and religious leaders to cooperate to impress upon the people the importance of strict compliance with the law."

Before the opening of the pools William L. Holzhausen, president of the board of police commissioners, briefed police captains on the ruling. He also conferred with the city counselor's staff and Judge Hulen.

Police action demonstrated that officers were ready and able to keep law and order.

Also aiding the police in trying to prevent any mob action was the Rev. Patrick J. Molloy, moderator of the Catholic Interracial council and pastor of the St. Peter Claver church, Robertson. He personally pleaded with the crowd to obey Judge Hulen's order

Negroes Ask Use Of Parks, Schools

AUSTIN, Tex.—Texas Negroes have launched a many-sided assault on all phases of discrimination. They have filed an injunction suit in Federal District Court here demanding full and equal use of all state parks, whose facilities, by custom and not by any existing law, are barred to Negroes.

The suit was filed by Messrs. T. R. Register, J. W. Presley and P. E. Medlock of Smith County, and Mr. W. Astor Kirk of Austin.

Gordon K. Shearer, excutive secretary of the State Parks Board sent a letter at once to 44 park managers asking them for suggestions as to the use of state parks by Negroes on a segregated basis. The Parks Board also adopted a resolution calling upon the legislature to provide funds to make it possible to supply equal facilities for Negroes in all state parks.

This injunction suit, like the number of legal actions against segregation in secondary and higher education, is serving to expose the rottenness, wastefulness and senselessness of the whole system of segregation. The secretary of the Parks Board asserted that unless funds were provided, it would be necessary to close those parks which provide sleeping cabins, dining halls and swimming pools. To maintain segregation, equal facilities would have to be provided for Negroes.

★

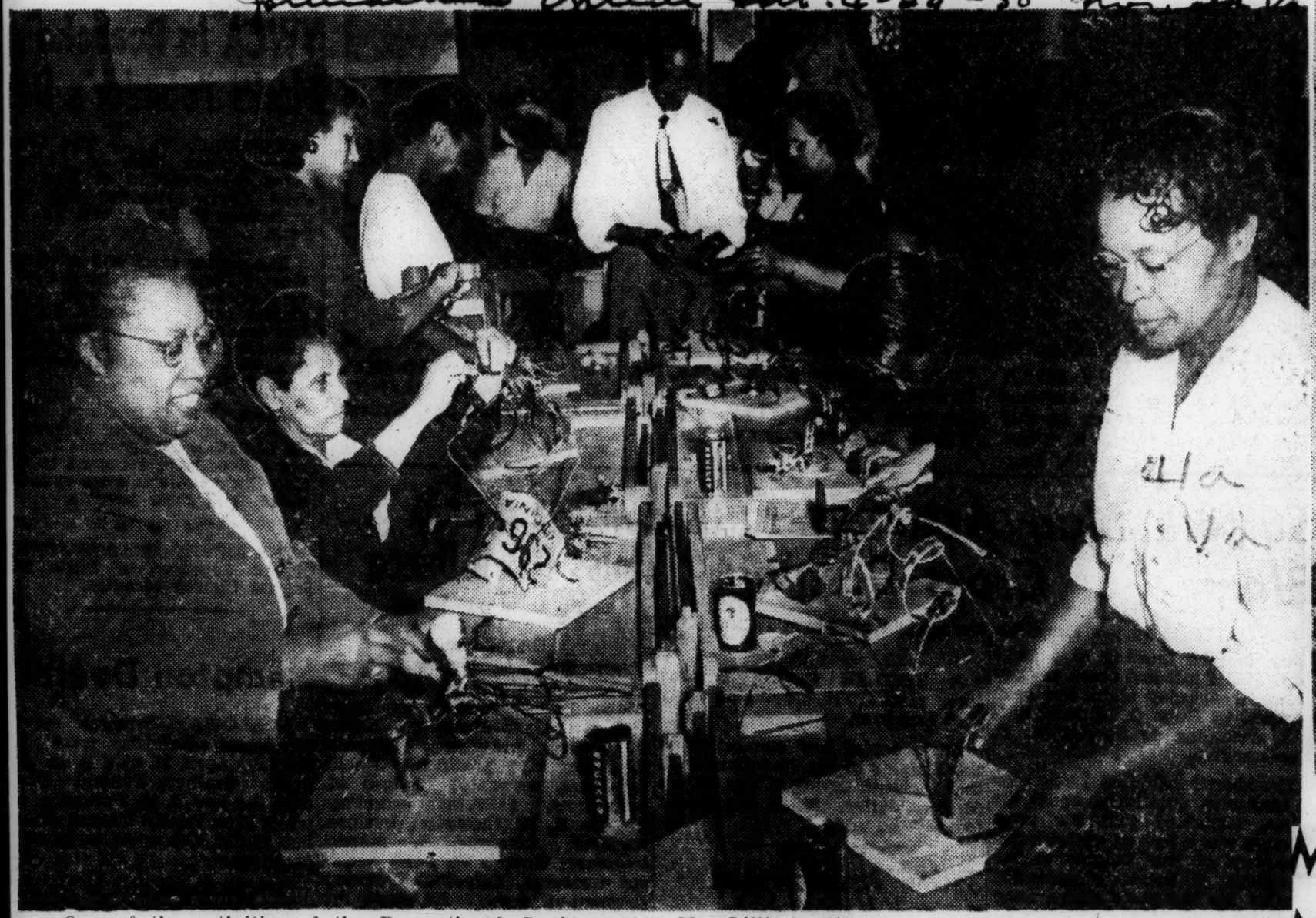
AT THE SAME TIME, there is at least one park in Texas, the largest and most beautiful, whose facilities are open to and used by Negro and white. This is the Big Bend National Park federally owned and operated, in West Texas.

Meanwhile, five Negro leaders in Houston filed a suit in the Federal District Court there to compel the city to open the municipal golf course to Negro players. The suit points out that although the course is maintained and was purchased by taxes to which they contributed, they have been denied the use of it.

Mayor Oscar Holcombe, who posed as a "friend of the Negro people" during his last election campaign, when questioned about the case, weakly replied that when the Negro players who filed the suit tried to use the course last July it had already been completely reserved for the day.

Pending in the courts are also a number of cases attacking segregation in secondary schools, brought by the courageous Negro people in some of the smaller towns like LaGrange and Waxahachie; and the celebrated Sweatt Case, demanding an end to the policy of an "all-white" University of Texas, is soon to be decided in the U. S. Supreme Court.

Recreational Conference Held At Virginia State College



One of the activities of the Recreational Conference sponsored by the State Department of Education at Virginia State College last week was an Arts and Crafts Workshop. Shown in the background is Walter A. Simon, associate professor of Art at Virginia State College, giving instructions to Mrs. Lillie B. Gilbert. Others in photo are left to right: Mrs. Othelia H. Brown, Miss Eva Dove, Miss Armita Wilson, Miss Virginia Bowman, Mrs. Adelma H. Drumgold, Mrs. Sarah C. Michie and Mrs. Geneva K. Watson.

First State Park Ready For Negroes In Virginia

RICHMOND—(ANP)—Prince Edward State Park, Virginia's first full-fledged State Park for Negroes will be ready this summer.

The park will have six housekeeping cabins available for vacationers for four months.

At a cost of some $195,000, the park was developed by the state from a recreation area. The program was initiated as a result of an equalization suit brought by a Negro resident of Danville. He argued in Federal District Court here in December, 1948, that Negroes were being deprived of equal park facilities.

The case was continued indefinitely when both sides agreed to the development of the park on a par with those operated for whites"

MRS. LILLIE G. WINFIELD

Mrs. Winfield Is Favorite Norfolk Recreation Leader

By MARTHA HURSEY

NORFOLK—For seven years now, Mrs. Lillie G. Winfield, playground instructor with the Norfolk Recreation Bureau, has been a favorite with Norfolk parents because of her play activities with their children.

And since joining the staff at Smith Street Community Center two years ago, she has earned their favor two-fold through working with adults as well.

One of the most successful adult recreation programs to be organized in the city was the square dancing class started by Mrs. Winfield in March. The venture was so successful upon completion of the course, the group decided to band together as a club which meets regularly through the Summer.

BETWEEN 75 - 100 ADULTS from all walks of life join in the square dancing every Monday.

And what is particularly pleasing to Mrs. Winfield is the way that all people mingle together freely.

"When you're continually changing partners, social barriers are soon forgotten," she smiled.

"Everybody's busy having a good time."

Sat.

NOT ONLY HAS square dancing proven popular with the sailors who ordinarily frequent the Smith Street USO, but has caught the fancy of soldiers as well. The square dancers have been invited for a return engagement at Fort Story in September. And on Aug. 14, they will dance at Fort Eustis.

Before coming to Smith Street Center, Mrs. Winfield was playground instructor at Roberts Park. She also helped to organize the Ida Bagnall Center on Brambleton avenue.

However, parents and children aren't the only ones who are loud in praises of your neighbor. Her co-workers also have their say. According to Mrs. Daisy Holmes, music instructor, the children regard her as their second mother. They confide in her more than they would their parents in many cases, she added.

* * *

CHIMED IN WILLIAM HOGE, director of Smith Street Community Center:

"She is a very conscientious and dynamic person. Much of the success of the Smith Street program is due directly to her efforts."

Mrs. Winfield lives with her husband, Emelile at 1245 Glasgow street, Portsmouth. They moved from Norfolk a year ago, but are planning to return as soon as housing is available. They have three children, Emelile Jr., a sophomore at Howard University; Edmere, a senior at Howard; and Connie, a junior at Booker T. High School.

* * *

MRS. WINFIELD IS ALSO employed part time as clerk and secretary at Second Calvary Baptist Church, where she holds membership.

A graduate of Virginia State Normal School, Mrs. Winfield is a former teacher at Isle of Wight Training School and Booker T. Washington Night School.

Norfolk

The only organization with which she is affiliated is the YWCA Business and Professional Club.

* * *

TRYING TO LIST her hobbies, Mrs. Winfield ran into some difficulties. After making two or three attempts, she finally concluded, 'I guess recreation is my only hobby after all."

"I must have found my niche in life, because I'm not conscious that recreation is a job."

A native of Norfolk, Mrs. Winfield shares with Mrs. Lucinda Goodman, of Oakleaf Park Recreation Center, the distinction of having the longest service record with the bureau.

Next week's neighbor will be Miss Audrey Mercer, district director of East District Girl Scouts.